

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 8, 12, 17, 20-27 are pending. Claims 20-27 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found on page 4, lines 1-6; page 4, line 22-23; page 8, lines 19-20; page 9, lines 21-23; and page 10, lines 1-14 of the application as originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced. Claims 1-7, 13-16 and 18-19 were rejected over the cited references. Claims 8, 12 and 17 were allowed. In order to further the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-7, 13-16 and 18-19 without prejudice. Claims 8, 12 and 17 which were previously allowed claims thus remain pending. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 8, 12 and 17.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has twice objected to the previously filed IDS because the titles of the references were not included. Filed herewith is an IDS citing references that was filed twice before, now with titles included per the Examiner's request.

II. New Claims 20-27

To better articulate and thus provide an adequate level of protection, Applicants have added new claims 20-27, which are dependent from allowed independent claims 8 and 12. Since the new claims depend from the allowed claims and include all the elements of the allowed claims they are also allowable at least to the same extent as their allowable base claims.

Appl. No. 10/662,944
Amdt. dated October 17, 2005
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1755

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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